

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent applications and the abstract.

Claims 1-152 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 153-194 have been added and are pending. No new matter has been added.

The requisite Declaration is attached.

An Assignment and appropriate cover sheet are attached for recordation of the Assignment. Recordation and return of the recorded Assignment are requested.

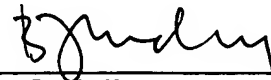
Acceptance of the attached drawings, or specific objection or rejection of the same, is requested.

An early and favorable action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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